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MARCH 27.

The President, Dr. JOSEPH LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty-five persons present.

A paper entitled "Notes on the Myology of *Ursus maritimus*," by Edw. A. Kelly, was presented for publication.

*Trematodes of the Muskrat*:—Prof. LEIDY stated that in the collection of the Academy there is a vial labelled "worms from the duodenum of the Muskrat." There are 25 worms, and in their present condition they are pale brown bordered by dark brown, and measure from 12 to 18 mm long by 1 to 1.5 mm broad. If not identical, they are closely allied to *Distomum echinatum*, which in the mature state lives in ducks and other water birds and in the larval state in fresh water snails. The Muskrat eats the latter so that it may likewise become infested in the same manner as the ducks and this would also seem to make it probable that the parasite is the same. Dujardin, Wedl, and others describe *D. echinatum* as having the fore-part of the body echinate, which is not the case with the Distome of the Muskrat, though in both the head is armed in the same manner and with the same number of spines. Its characters are as follow.

Body long, flattened, band-like, with the neck tapering and the tail obtusely rounded. Head reniform, with a coronet of strong-straight spines, from 30 to 36. Ventral acetabulum much larger than the head, situated at the base of the neck a short distance behind the latter, spherical. Body of nearly uniform width. Oral acetabulum small; pharynx oval; intestines simple and narrow. Genital orifice immediately in advance of the ventral acetabulum; cirrus exsert to one side, curved and smooth; testes situated almost midway between the ventral acetabulum and tail; oviducts median behind the ventral acetabulum; ova oval, yellow; vitelline glands large and conspicuous, racemose, extending along the intestines from the ventral acetabulum to the end of the tail.

Head 0.5 to 0.6 broad; spines about 0.1 long by 0.02 thick; oral acetabulum 0.25; pharynx 0.3 long, 0.225 wide; ventral acetabulum 0.875 to 1.25 mm. Ova 0.1 long by 0.072 broad.

Since the above communication a collection of worms, from the small intestine of a Muskrat, has been received. Eighteen of the worms pertain to the supposed *Distomum echinatum*, and range from 18 to 25 mm long. In all, the fore part of the body to a short distance behind the ventral acetabulum is finely echinate, while the rest is smooth. Two other worms appear to belong to *Amphistomum subtriquetrum*, 12 and 15 mm long, a parasite previously observed only in the Beaver of Europe.

of minute hooks between the anterior pair of the bothria and with a larger pair and two small pairs between the last pair of bothria. Genital aperture with a circular or a transverse oval coronet of thirty-two hooks of equal length. No eyes visible. Length elongated from 4 to 6 mm.; contracting to about half the length and widening proportionately.

Besides the foregoing there was found in the intestine of one of the Terrapins a little Distome, of 3 mm. length, which though mature he had not the leisure to examine. He also observed in the throat of one a number of little anguillula-like worms which he likewise did not examine.

In all the Terrapins the flesh, liver, and other parts than those above mentioned were entirely clear of parasites; therefore in preparing these animals for food it is easy to free them from the latter by rejecting the head, intestines and bladder; or if it is thought desirable to use the intestines they should be slit open and cleansed of the contents.

Prof. Leidy added that he had recently found in the collection of the Academy, a bottle labelled "alimentary worms in terrapin." These proved to be seven bot-larvæ like those described and exhibited at a former meeting. (See Proc. 1887, 393.)

Messrs Lancaster Thomas, John B. Deaver and Gerritt H. Weaver were elected members.

The following were ordered to be printed:—